9. Registration and licensing of dogs and cats help to control rabies.

(T) (F)

- 10. If a person shows symptoms of rabies, he can be cured by a vaccine.(T) (F)
- The key to rabies control is the immunization of domestic animals.
   (T) (F)
- Lack of fear of humans is often a sign that wild animals display when infected with rabies. (T) (F)
- Impounding and destroying ownerless and unwanted animals helps to control rabies. (T) (F)
- 14 . A rabies vaccine should be administered to a person bitten by a rabid animal to prevent the development of the disease. (T) (F)
- 15. Some people, especially farm workers, are naturally immune to rabies. (T) (F)

ANSWERS: 1=F, 2=T, 3=T, 4=T, 5=F, 6=T, 7=T, 8=T, 9=T, 10=F, 11=T, 12=T, 13=T, 14=T, 15=F,

### **HOW TO BE A SMART PET OWNER**

#### NOISE

Pets, like humans, make noise to communicate. Typically they are alarms or alerts. Answer the "alarm" quickly when your pet calls. Owners need to pay attention to those noises as they can be heard for long distances. The City of Milwaukee has noise ordinances that penalize owners who fail to control the noise from their pets. Learn to control your animal before the complaint arrives.

#### **PICKING UP AFTER YOUR PET**

In urban environments "Green Space" is a valuable commodity. A sure way to upset a neighbor is to leave behind animal droppings in their yard. After your pet has finished their "business" the owner isn't finished until the scat is picked up and disposed of properly. TAKE IT WITH YOU! Smart owners always carry extra disposal bags. Owners can be fined for failing to clean up after their pets. Owners have a responsibility to their pet and their neighbors.

#### **LEASHES AND COLLARS**

All pets in public are required to be on a leash for the safety of the pet and the public. Animals running loose in traffic can cause serious accidents injuring the animal and humans. The leading cause of pet injury by auto is because the owner didn't "think" their pet would run. Be Smart. Protect your pet with a leash. If your animal is hit in traffic the medical bill will start in the hundreds of dollars. A \$5 leash is a great investment if used properly. Responsible pet owners leash their pets.







Actions to be taken for animal bites.



City of Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services (414) 286-2268

## Actions to be taken when an animal bites

- Immediately wash out the wound with large amounts of soap and running water to remove the animal's saliva which could contain the rabies virus.
- 2. Confine the animal to a garage or yard if can be done without risk of further bites or injury. Or, if possible, follow the animal to its home. Write down an accurate description of the animal.

Don't kill the animal unless absolutely necessary to stop the attack as it is easier to detect the disease in a live animal. If killed the head should not be damaged and should be refrigerated (not frozen) until it can be examined.

- Contact a physician immediately for treatment of the wound and advice. A physician is the person best able to determine the type of treatment necessary. In addition, a tetanus shot may be indicated.
- 4. Report the bite to the Department of Neighborhood Services at 286-2268.

Do not hesitate to make a report because the animal is owned by a friend or relative. You could be gambling with someone's life. Once identified, the animal is confined for at least 10-14 days while being monitored for rabies symptoms.

# TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE ON RABIES Circle the correct answer. True False

- 1. Rabies occurs only during the summer months. (T) (F)
- 2. Animal bites can cause serious diseases other than rabies. (T) (F)
- 3. City of Milwaukee Code of Ordinances requires dogs and cats to be vaccinated against rabies.

(T) (F)

- 4. Wild animals such as foxes, raccoons, bats, squirrels, and skunks can carry rabies. (T) (F)
- 5. Rabies is no longer a threat to man in the United States. (T) (F)
- 6. It is necessary to quarantine animals that have bitten a person for at least 10-14 days. (T) (F)
- 7. Depending on the age of your dog or cat and the type of vaccine used, rabies vaccinations are good for one to three years. (T) (F)
- 8. An animal bite or scratch should be immediately washed with lots of soap and water followed by a visit to your physician. (T) (F)